

Solicitation of Interest

The State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Office of Federal Compliance is seeking applications from accredited academic institutions interested in hosting the 2022-2025 National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) program.

The purpose of the NSTI program is to address the needs of a diverse workforce and promote greater awareness of career opportunities within the transportation industry. The NSTI program objectives are to:

- Improve STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) skills;
- Provide awareness to middle and high school students – particularly minority, female, and disadvantaged youth – about transportation careers; and
- Encourage students to consider transportation-related courses of study in their higher education pursuits.

This initiative is championed through public and private partnerships, FHWA Division Offices, State Transportation Agencies, the private sector, community based organizations, colleges, and universities. Since 1996, 56 States and U.S. territories, and over 25,000 students have participated in the NSTI Program. The program, which typically lasts between 2-4 weeks, provides students across the state a foundation from which to pursue transportation-related fields of study and advance through the USDOT Pathways programs, such as the Summer Transportation Internship (STI) Program for Diverse Groups and the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) makes NSTI funds available to State Departments of Transportations (SDOTs) each year. SDOTs competitively solicit accredited colleges, universities, and community colleges within their states to submit a statement of work (SOW) to host STIs at their institutions. The SDOTs then apply to FHWA for funds for the named institutions to host STIs. Funding for the program is contingent upon the issuance of the Grant Award by USDOT, FHWA.

The amount of the contract shall not exceed \$50,000 annually; however, contract selection will be based on the lowest responsive bid. Accredited academic institutions interested in hosting the NSTI program must submit their letter of interest and detailed statement of work no later than **October 8, 2021** to Crystal.A.McIntyre@dot.nh.gov.

Applications must include the following documents;

- Statement of Work (SOW) Application document (not to exceed 10 pages)
 - Section A: Program Information
 - Section B: Program Overview
 - Section C: Program Administration

- Budget Tables A-E

An evaluation team will prequalify institutions based on the information contained in each expression of interest and Statement of Work. Each institution will be evaluated on the ability to provide a well-designed STEM education and training program, demonstrated capacity to perform stated services, demonstrated ability to effectively and efficiently communicate with all partners across the program and past performance (if applicable).

All prequalified institutions will then be invited to bid on the above services. Each invitation to bid will include a sample contract with a detailed scope of work and all necessary bid documents.

Questions should be directed to Crystal McIntyre at Crystal.A.McIntyre@dot.nh.gov or 603.271.2467.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation is an Equal Opportunity Employer. If you need this information in an alternative format, please contact our office.